

### REMARKS

Applicant requests entry of this Preliminary Amendment in this divisional application.

By this Preliminary Amendment Applicant has amended the title and has added a paragraph to the specification after the title regarding related applications.

By this Preliminary Amendment Applicant has amended figure 1 to show reference number 22, the upper surface of a pallet 24. Also enclosed herewith is a Letter to the Official Draftsperson describing the change to the drawings, a replacement drawing page showing reference number 22, and a drawing page showing the change to the drawings in red ink.

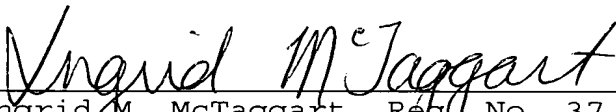
By this Preliminary Amendment Applicant has canceled claims 1-16 and has amended claims 17-18. New claims 21-33 have been added. Claims 17-33 are pending in the divisional application. Claims 17, 21, 27, 31 and 33 are in independent form.

### Conclusion

Claims 17-33 are believed to be in condition for examination and Applicant respectfully requests the same. If the Examiner should have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, a call to Applicant's counsel, Ms. Ingrid M. McTaggart at (503) 230-7934, is respectfully

requested. If the Examiner should have any other questions regarding the above referenced application, a call to Applicant's counsel Mr. Bob Wasson (360) 212-2338, is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicant(s)

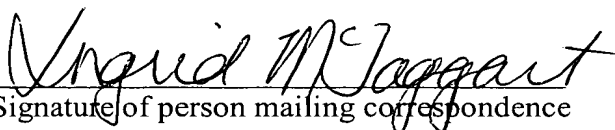
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**Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail" (37 CFR 1.10)**

I hereby certify that this Patent Application (and the documents & fees listed as enclosed therein) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box New App/Fee, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 27, 2003.

Ingrid McTaggart

Date: 10 - 27 - 03

  
Signature of person mailing correspondence  
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